

Preschool Newsletter

December 2000

Play and Academic Learning – Reading

Can children play and still learn academics? Of course! Play contributes to the development of academic ability in many ways.

Children playing with Legos or ordering objects by size or length or using ASL poetry are involved in activities that promote reading ability. Reading is a complex process. It involves eyes coordination, visual discrimination and cognitive ability to work with parts of wholes. Research shows that play assists the development of skills necessary for reading. In fact, it is known that child's play is a better predictor of success in some areas of reading and language development than IQ (Pellegrini – 1980).

One of the most important goals in teaching reading is language development. During play, children can discuss, argue, explain, and use language in a variety of imaginative ways. They develop skills in visual discrimination by sorting, classifying and comparing objects in the room. They also develop literacy skills by creating their own stories, making books, role-playing scenes from books, or creating signs and messages as part of their play.

What can you do at home to help your child be a successful reader? Here are some tips from the Preschool teachers:

Connie Jones-McLean: 1-1/2 to 3 year olds.

Collect snapshots of your child and family. Make a book together. Write stories about what's happening in the pictures or write what your child tells you. Take turns reading to each other. Date the book so you can keep track of your child's language development.

Angi Casler: 3-4 year olds.

Label items commonly used by your child at home. Point out print in the environment (on food containers, at restaurant or store names, etc.) and fingerspell those words with your child. Start a daily journal. Write a sentence about your child. Include colors, numbers and pictures to give clues for printed words. Above all, read at least one story a day with your child.

Cynthia Reynolds: 4-5 year olds.

Encourage your child to love reading by providing positive reading experiences and let your child take the lead while reading together. After choosing a favorite book or story, let your child turn the pages, point out characters or events while you sign about what's happening. Be sure to give your child time to look at the pictures or text and wait for

your child to look at you and before continuing to read. Adjust your style to meet the child's developmental level. With young, inexperienced readers, you may want to focus only on pictures. You can even act out scenes together. Children love role-play!

Sharon Mealka: 4-5 year olds.

Expose your child to reading during everyday routine activities at home. Include your child as you plan a menu, go grocery shopping and prepare a special meal together. Look through cookbooks, pointing out ingredients you will need. Have your child help write a shopping list. Fingerspell words to be copied on the list. Check newspaper ads for bargains and use coupons for listed foods. *Once home, have your child help follow selected recipes for your special dinner you cook together.

*While shopping, let your child match coupons to food items.

Cami Cass: 5-6 year olds.

Make word-picture cards with your child. Use plain index cards and ask your child what words he/she would like to learn to read. Print the word and add a picture or sticker on the card. Group the cards into themes or experiences such as farm animals, community helpers, family adventures, etc. Together make a story book or scrap book so you can practice reading.

During Professional Days in October, Preschool staff attended an informative workshop sponsored by Gallaudet University. The workshop, "Reading to Deaf Children: Learning From Deaf Adults", outlined fifteen strategies used by Deaf adults for reading to Deaf children -(see attached). A manual and video are available for checkout from the Supervising Teacher's office or from Parent Infant Program.

Due to the positive response from workshop attendees, ISD will be offering the reading workshop for parents later this year. We will keep you posted on date and time. Please try to attend this worthwhile workshop. Keep reading a priority in your child's life!

Have a safe and happy holiday. See you all on Monday, January 8, 2001!

Diana Battiste
Interim Supervising Teacher
317.920.6261
dbattiste@isfd.state.in.us



**READING & WRITING
TOGETHER**
Laurent Clerc National Deaf Education Center

Principles for Reading to Deaf Children

1. Deaf readers translate stories using American Sign Language.
2. Deaf readers keep both languages visible (ASL and English).
3. Deaf readers are not constrained by the text.
4. Deaf readers re-read stories on a "storytelling" to "story reading" continuum.
5. Deaf readers follow the child's lead.
6. Deaf readers make what is implied explicit.
7. Deaf readers adjust sign placement to fit the story.
8. Deaf readers adjust signing style to fit the story.
9. Deaf readers connect concepts in the story to the real world.
10. Deaf readers use attention maintenance strategies.
11. Deaf readers use eye gaze to elicit participation.
12. Deaf readers engage in role-play to extend concepts.
13. Deaf readers use ASL variations to sign repetitive English phrases.
14. Deaf readers provide a positive and reinforcing environment.
15. Deaf readers expect the child to become literate.

Preschool Newsletter

March 2002

Supervising Teacher's Corner:

Opportunities for literacy learning should be available in all preschool classrooms and homes, too. Literacy learning should be a part of everyday life. Our goal is to see the children using written language in the normal course of the day: finding and using materials, making transitions from one activity to the next, helping with classroom chores and playing. In play, children explore and increase their understanding of print and its functions. Children *and* adults should be encouraged to take part in literacy activities daily. Here are some ways that you can encourage reading and writing at home.

Use print to organize the day. Label cubbies with children's names so all will know where to place personal items. Use conventional print, using uppercase letters to begin the name and then following with lowercase letters. This is like the print they will see in books and in much of their world. Label places where materials are kept. Use matching labels on containers and on the shelf where they belong. Involve your child in attaching the labels and give assistance in the beginning by pointing out the labels that match. This allows children to be independent during play and cleanup. Older preschoolers can help make their own labels by copying from a card or from a fingerspelled prompt.

In addition to labels, you can also use signs or notices. Signs help children give meaning to print. Use signs to limit the number of children in a play area for safety reasons. Add a picture or drawing next to the print for clarification. Use signs for a variety of reasons such as routine directions, information sharing, and as learning activities.

Charts are another way for children to learn about the written word. Charts help us list and organize information. At school, teachers use charts to assign jobs and list attendance. At home, daily chores can be written down and name-tags for family members can be posted next to an assigned chore. You can point out the similarities and differences of family members' names. Another fun

way to use charts is for reading recipes during cooking activities. With your help, it will be easy for your child to follow the directions and prepare a tasty treat for the family!

See how Cami Cass and Sharon Mealka, use print in developmentally appropriate ways in their pre-kindergarten classrooms to encourage their students' bilingual skills in ASL and English.



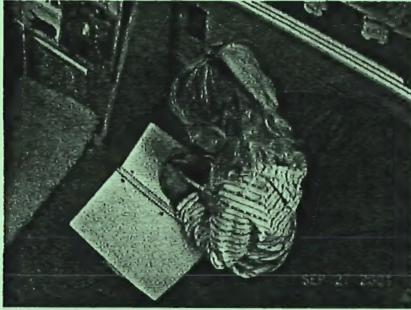
Circle Time: Stories are told. Students retell the stories with books and props.



Art: Students design their own creations. As they talk about their designs, adults or students write the words.



Writing Table: Students make a word bank from words they really want to know. Students may begin with pictures and advance to letters.



Notebooks: Students have their own notebooks. They can write anything they want in the books. They can share it or save it for later reading.



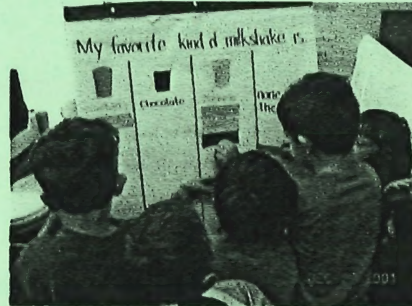
Blocks: Students build structures. Notes are written to save their work over night. Materials are available to make traffic signs, etc.



Story Time: Students copy key vocabulary from books used during themes. They use these words for matching activities or may expand the vocabulary to meet their individual needs.



Class-made Books: Staff use digital cameras to capture highlights for the purpose of school and home discussions. Here the students have asked Diana to caption her photo from the Pumpkin Patch field trip. They will make a book about the experience.



Charts: Students make, taste and record their favorite flavor of milkshakes by adding their written nametag to the chart.

Feel free to stop by Sharon and Cami's class anytime to see literacy in action. Continue your efforts at home, too, as parents are a child's most important teacher!

Diana Battiste
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Welcome BSU Participants



Hello, my name is Kelli Korte. I am currently working with Dave Tester. I was born and raised in Fort Wayne. I first became interested in learning sign language the summer before my senior year of high school. I came to ISD on a 4-H trip. I saw some of the students signing and one adult staff member spoke with us. The language amazed me. I went to Ball State only planning on having a minor in Deaf Education. I quickly learned that I wanted to change my major to Deaf Education. Some of my interests include 4-H, talking with my friends and anything that has to do with cows. I am really excited about being here and will treasure everything I have learned at ISD.



Hi, my name is Jennifer Oliver and I am working with Angi Casler's class. I am

from Pittsboro, IN. I am interested in educating students that are Deaf or Hard of Hearing. I want to bridge the gap between the hearing and Deaf world. My hobbies include basketball and horseback riding.



Hi, my name is Sarah Apgar. I am working in Nursery School with Connie Jones-McLean and Lucy Kramer. I am from Troy, Ohio. That is about 2 hours away from Indianapolis. I grew up in Maine, in a town that had a residential Deaf school. I can remember having some Deaf students come into our class and do activities with us. From then on I have been fascinated with sign language and Deaf culture, but only recently have I begun learning ASL and learning more about Deaf culture and the Deaf community. It seems the more I learn the more interested I become! In my spare time I work at Ben and Jerry's Ice Cream. I also love to run and exercise, bake, read, and watch the news. I am very excited to be in Preschool!





Hi, I am Cinda Roedel and I am working with Sharon Mealka's prekindergarten class. I am from Evansville. When I was in high school, I helped out with a Deaf education class. From then on I knew that's what I want to do. Since then I have grown a great appreciation for the language and culture I am still learning about. I love to workout and go to the movies. I would love to babysit throughout the week but on weekends, I go home.



Hello, my name is Tracy Chastain. I am so excited to finally be in Preschool! I am working in Cynthia and Carla's room. I have always been intrigued with Deaf culture and how young children develop. I remember reading Helen Keller's story, but it wasn't until my four years at Purdue that I learned that my heart was in Deaf education. I studied Speech and Audiology, but the excitement wasn't there. I enjoy art,

crafts, reading and rooting for the Boilermakers! I grew up in Salem, Indiana, but my parents now live in Columbus, Indiana. I will be available for babysitting at any time this summer around the Indy/Columbus area.



Hi, my name is Annalise King. I am working in Cami Cass' room.



Welcome:

To our new student and his family.

Franco Bippus



Glendale Mall ASL Evenings

When: 1st Thursday of each month

Where: Glendale Mall Food Court

Time: 5 – 8:30 PM

Purpose: Eat, meet new people, use ASL, read stories in the library, socialize with Deaf people, talk and much more.

For who: Deaf people, hearing families with Deaf children, Deaf families with deaf and or hearing children, siblings, Senior Citizens, CV residents, CODAS, teachers, students, ALL ARE WELCOME TO COME AND USE ASL FOR THE EVENING!!!

For more information contact:

Diane Hazel Jones

Outreach Department

Indiana School for the Deaf

1200 East 42nd Street

Indianapolis, IN 46205

1-317-924-8418

1-800-722-6166 Indiana Residents Only



Signing for Friendship

Come and enjoy socializing with Deaf, Hard-of-Hearing and hearing friends at our "Signing for Friendship" at the Greenwood Park Mall.

Location: Greenwood Park Mall Food Court

Date: Second Saturday of each month

Time: 5-7 p.m.

Information: Carla Meyer

Phone: 317-535-7820 (v/TTY) Franklin

Elizabeth Caudle

Phone: 317-782-3785 (v) Beech Grove

Upcoming Events:

March 14: Angi's class fieldtrip to the Children's Museum

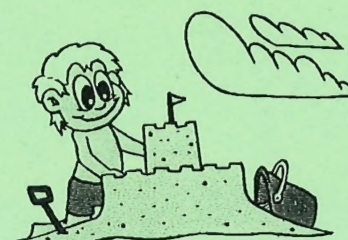
March 19: Cami & Sharon's classes fieldtrip to Stellar Cellar

March 22: Kindergarten Orientation

March 29: Good Friday, No School

April 1-5: Spring Break

April 8: Classes resume

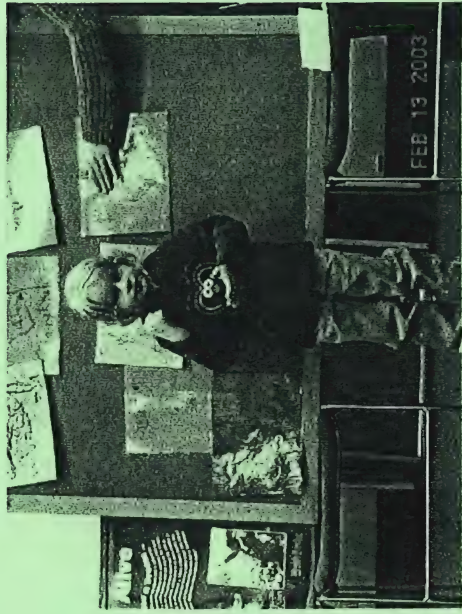


Fun Friday Fieldtrips

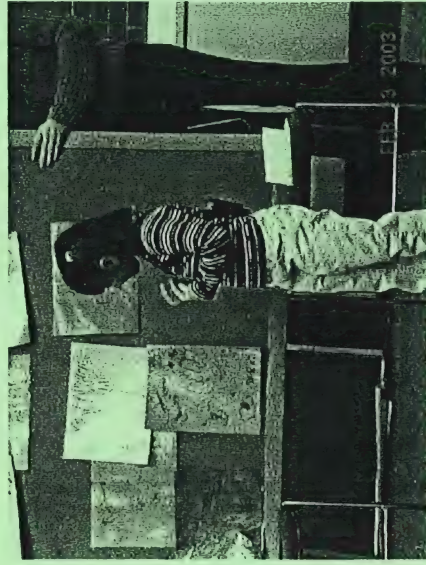
March 22: Chuck E' Cheese Pizza

April 12: Indianapolis Zoo





Catherine says, "We take care of animals. If they are sick, we take them to the animal hospital."



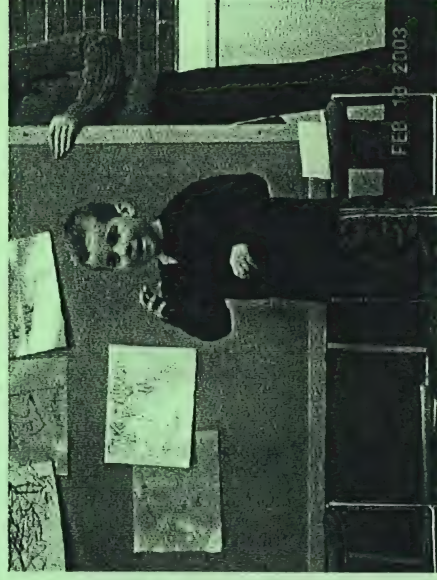
"Family members cooperate with each other." said Kaci.



Dante ended the program by saying, "We support Martin Luther King. Respect diversity."



Zachary says, "Love all people."



"We should be friends—black, white, deaf, hearing, blind, or in a wheelchair. Respect the diversity." said Jake.

Fathers' Luncheon 2003



Gary & Alexander Pitchford



Ken & Vitya Kinsey



Abigail & Thomas James



Daniel & Danielle Smith



Bobby & Christian Jacobs



Patrick & Victoria Tingler



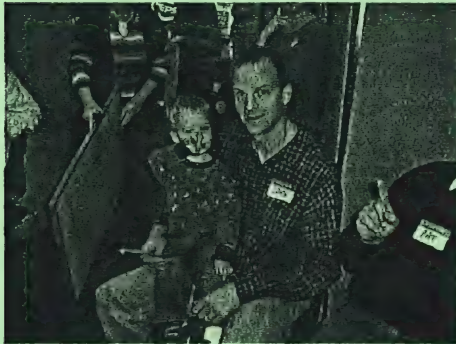
Mason & Rodney Cox



Brian & Franco Bippus



Michael, Isabella & Dante Paulone



Jonah & John Hazelett

Fathers' Luncheon is an annual event so keep your eye out for this gathering next year. Until then, come and join us in Preschool whenever you get the chance. You will make your child's day!

Mobile Dental

The Mobile Dental Clinic will be held on March 24 here at ISD. The forms were due by March 1. If you have lost or misplaced the forms, you can request a new form from the H.C. staff. Any questions about the clinic should be directed to the Health Center.

Deb Robarge RN
Health Center Director
Indiana School for the Deaf
(317) 920-6279



Brush your teeth daily!

PTCO Ice Cream Social

On March 27th, PTCO parent volunteers will serve ice cream with toppings to preschool students in Willard Cafeteria during lunch..



Upcoming Events:

- | | |
|----------|---|
| March 6 | ASL Storytelling at Glendale Mall Library 6:30-7:00 pm
Preschool |
| March 7 | 12:30 pm Student Dismissal |
| March 11 | Alumni Basketball Staff vs. Varsity Boys & Girls at 6:30 pm. Admission \$1 |
| March 12 | Angi's class fieldtrip to Children's Museum |
| March 17 | Happy St. Patrick's Day |
| March 19 | Angi's class fieldtrip to Kidd's Mini Farm |
| March 21 | 12:30 pm Student Dismissal |
| March 27 | Family Education Series-MPR
"Making the ASL - English Connection"
8:30-9:30 am & 6:30-7:30 pm |
| March 29 | Spring Break begins |
| April 6 | Spring Break ends |
| April 7 | Classes resume |

Preschool Newsletter

September 2002



Supervising Teacher's Corner:

Welcome to the 2002-2003 ISD school year! We look forward to another year filled with great learning opportunities for you and your child. Join us in the classrooms to see the children actively exploring, playing, chatting and learning.

You will notice our classroom environment differs from the old grade-school images of the teacher doing all the signing at the blackboard while the children sit at desks watching quietly. Research and experience tells us that to be effective with young children, teaching practices need to be "developmentally appropriate". That means our teachers think first about what young children are like and then create an environment and experiences that fit the children's characteristics.

Early childhood is a time of life very different from the later school years. Children learn best through direct, interactive experiences. They learn so much through play and exploration. Based on the knowledge of what young children are like, we design our age-appropriate program to fit them.

We are eager to work with you and your family to provide a program that is geared for every child. Share your dreams, talents and time with us this year. Be a part of our learning community. Let's work together for the best interests of our children!

Diana Battiste
Supervising Teacher
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Farewell Preschool Staff:

Teacher Aides -

Curtis Sigafoose
Kelli Jo Hancock



Welcome Preschool Staff:

Teacher Aides -

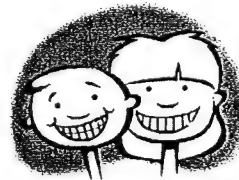
Jenny Foster
Scheryl Hittle
Kelly Kopatich



Welcome:

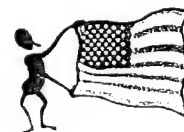
To all our new students and their families.

Mason Cox
Airelle Dumas
Jan Campos
Luke Dennin
Malachi Griffith
Nathan Brown
Mitchal Neier



In memory of...

September 11, 2001, please have your child wear red, white and blue clothes to school on Wednesday, Sept. 11th.

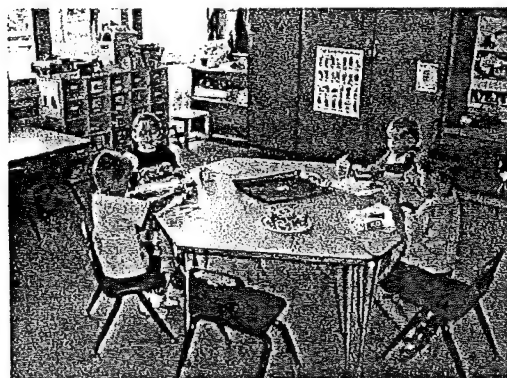


~Back To School~

✿ ✿ ✿ ✿ ✿



Connie's students playing in the P.E. Learning Center
Jada and Justin. Not pictured: Franco, Mason & Airelle.



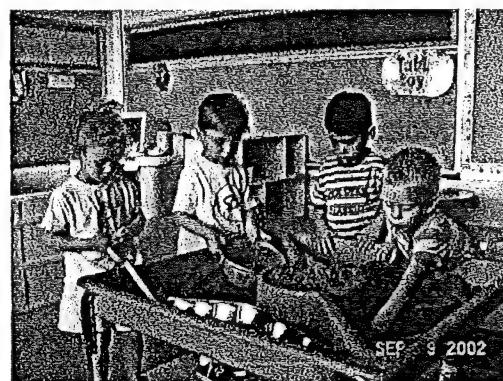
Cynthia's students enjoying the morning snack
Vitya, Levi, Danielle & Lance. Not pictured: Malayna



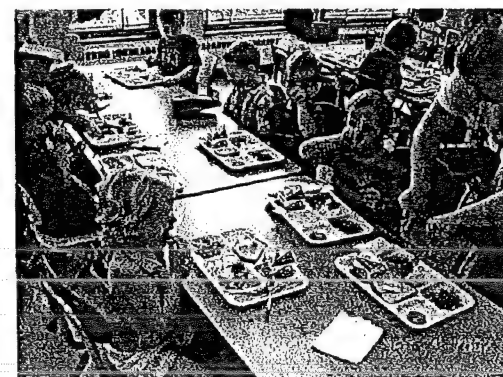
Dave's students playing in the Block Area
Samuel, Tiffany, Nathan & Mitchal



Sharon's students ready to go to recess
Nicholas, Luke, MacKenzie, Christian & Victoria



Angi's students playing in the Sensory Table
Isabella, Noah, Jan & Alex. Not pictured: Blake



Cami's students with their friends at lunch
Jeremy, Zachary, Catherine, Dante & Jake

Welcome Ball State University Students!



I'm Hannah Lamey, BSU student from Franklin, Indiana. I love working with kids and I want to learn more about Deaf culture. I want this experience to help me grow and learn and benefit those I work with. My hobbies include dancing, photography, writing and signing. I am working with Sharon Mealka's class and am available for babysitting.



My name is Renee Goodwin. I am a BSU student from Martinsville, Indiana. I am in Deaf Education because I want to help make a difference in the lives of children and learn Deaf culture. I enjoy dancing, swimming, volleyball and spending time with friends and family. I love kids and really enjoy school. I love

to be involved with school, kids and activities, and giving myself wherever I am needed. If you need me, I am available for babysitting.



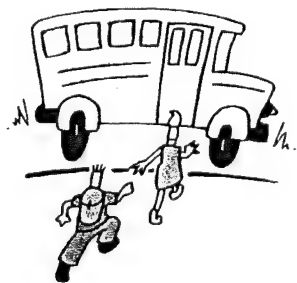
I am Erin Harrington, BSU student from Chicago, Illinois. I am working with Angi Casler's class. I want to be a teacher of Deaf children because I love the language. My hobbies are movies, reading and traveling. I am also available for babysitting in my free time.



My name is Alli Hudnall. I am a BSU student from Evansville, Indiana. I love kids, signing and love to teach. My hobbies include piano, exercise, signing and reading. I want to be involved at ISD as much as I can and learn as much as I can. I am available for babysitting after school, evenings and weekends. I work with Connie McLean's class.



I'm Myriah Dixon, BSU graduate student, from Birmingham, Alabama. My B.S. is in Psychology/Sociology and Educational Services. My younger brother is Deaf and I want to see that Deaf children and teenagers get a good, quality education equal to or better than that given to their hearing peers. My hobbies include comedy shows and reading comics. I work with Dave Tester's class and I am available for babysitting Friday night – Sunday afternoon.



Upcoming Events:

Sept. 9: PAC meeting in MPR 3:30
–5:00 pm

Sept. 11: A Day to Remember

Sept. 12: Angi's class fieldtrip to
Sugar Buzz

Sept. 14: New Family Orientation

Sept. 20: 12:30 p.m. Dismissal

Preschool Newsletter

January 2003



Supervising Teacher's Corner:

Welcome to the year 2003...a time of new beginnings and dreams for the upcoming year. At the same time, it is with great pleasure that we look back over the past year and count the many ways we were all blessed since August 2002:

- 16 new students and families enrolled in Preschool (9 in Nursery school!)
- 5 new staff became part of the Preschool team
- The Project Approach was successfully implemented with students 3-5 years of age
- ISD Middle School students and staff teamed with Preschool to renovate our courtyard and fish pond
- 13 parents shared their talents and interests with our students
- 28 parents served on committees
- 18 parents volunteered in the classroom or on field trips
- 8 parents attended the Gallaudet Reading Workshop
- 2 parents attended the 6+1 Writer's Workshop
- 20 parent-teacher conferences were held
- 26 home visits were made by staff to Preschool families
- 53 home visits were made by staff to Parent-Infant-Program families
- 23 Preschool families were issued library cards
- 10 Ball State University students completed their practicum in Preschool
- Staff participated in 28 training opportunities and last, but certainly not least,

- ISD was recognized by the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) as a high quality preschool and kindergarten and was granted accreditation

As you can see, there are many wonderful things happening at ISD this year. Of course, without our support, none of this would have been possible. We look forward to all that second semester will offer and thank you for helping us keep the dream alive.

Happy New Year!

Diana Battiste
Supervising Teacher
317-920-6261 tty/v
dbattiste@isfd.state.in.us



Welcome:

To all our new students and their families.

Joshua Baxter
Abigail James
Jonah Hazelett
Denali Thorn
Vincent Codolata
Kaci Patterson
Reilly McFall
Allison Lewis
Sabrina Bippus (SODA)
Anna Joy Lehnerz (CODA)
Caleb Motter (SODA)



Welcome Preschool Staff:

Joy Lehnertz
Linda Krieger

Farewell Preschool Staff:

Patricia Collins – We wish you a wonderful, relaxing retirement!

Welcome Ball State University Students!



My name is Laraine Catt. This quarter I am working with Cami Cass' class. I am a sophomore at Ball State from Fishers, IN. I am a CODA, my parents work here at ISD. I want to be a teacher of the Deaf because I have the capability to do so, and this is what I've wanted to do since I can remember. I enjoy just about anything that allows me to have a good time because I love to laugh. I love to work with kids and I look forward to seeing all the adorable little ones in Preschool.



My name is Beth Adams and I work with Dave Tester's class. I am from

New Haven, Indiana. I have always had a desire to learn about the Deaf culture and to teach. I enjoy rollerblading with friends and dancing. I have one brother who is married and lives in Mishawaka, IN. Also I have a cute little dog named Candi. When I am at home I work at a daycare for special needs children.



I am Jamie Nantz. I am in Cynthia Reynold's classroom. I am from Seymour, Indiana. I have been interested in the Deaf and signing since I was 10 years old. I know a Deaf boy and the challenges he has had by not having a teacher of the Deaf. I want to be a teacher of the Deaf so other kids don't go through similar situations. I have many hobbies that include art, music, and reading. I am looking forward to a fun-filled quarter.



Portfolio Review Conferences

Parent-teacher conferences are now being held to discuss first semester student progress and develop educational plans for second semester. We will do what we can to accommodate parent schedules so that you are able to view your child's portfolio. However, if you are unable to come in for a conference, a portfolio summary will be mailed to your home. You may still contribute parent input. Just add your comments to the form and send it back to your child's teacher. We will then resend the final copy to you. We appreciate your time and input!



My name is Crissy Williams and I work in Angi Casler's classroom. I am from Greenville, Ohio. I would like to be a teacher of the Deaf because I find teaching to be an honorable, productive, and rewarding job. I believe in ASL and the bicultural/bilingual philosophy. I like to travel and meet new people and places. I enjoy watching movies, attending workshops, dances and sporting events and watch them on TV, too. What fun! I am available to babysit on the weekends. Interesting fact about myself is that I am hard of hearing and nerve deafness runs in my immediate family.



Hi my name is Holly Wolsiefer. I am from Evansville, IN. I am in Connie McLean's class. I became interested in Deaf education from serving a Deaf gentleman at the bakery where I worked at home. I am a creative and very organized person. I love working with kids. I am also athletic, so I know I can keep up with your kids!



Did you know...

You can get an interpreter to talk with your child's teacher? Talk with a supervisor or staff member? Just let us

know when you plan to be here and the school will have someone available for you.

Contact: Amy Mattern, Secretary of Interpreters Department, 368-5880
Amattern@isfd.state.in.us

You can borrow videos and books from our school library? ASL videos, story videos, and children's books?

Contact Laura Kesterke, School Librarian, 920-6210
lkesterke@isfd.state.in.us

You can take free ASL classes through the Indiana Association for the Deaf, Vincennes University at ISD and ASL classes in Preschool on Monday mornings?

Contact Diane Hazel Jones, Outreach 317-924-8418
1-800-722-6166 Indiana Residents only
dhjones@isfd.state.in.us



Upcoming Events:

- Jan 16: PAC 8:30 am in Room 115
- Jan. 20: Martin Luther King Day
No School
- Jan. 21: Classes resume
- Jan. 25: ISD Homecoming
- Jan. 31: 12:30 pm Student Dismissal





Preschool Newsletter

March 2003



Supervising Teacher's Corner:

Parents are the most important, influential people in a child's life. No one – teacher, supervising teacher, counselor or residential advisor – can have as much impact on a child's development as a parent. But are you prepared for this huge role? Children aren't born with an instruction book, so what's a parent to do??? Why not take advantage of the upcoming workshops offered by ISD's *Family Education Series*!

The Family Education Series will be presenting a wide variety of workshops for families of young deaf and hard of hearing children. These workshops will be offered both in the morning from 8:30 – 9:30 AM or from 6:30 – 7:30 PM (if at least five participants register for the evening session). All workshops are interpreted. Childcare will be provided by Student Life staff during the evening workshop. Parents must R.S.V.P.

Our first workshop was offered on Thursday, February 27th. Glenda Zmijewski, ISD Interim Middle School Supervising Teacher and Early Childhood educator, presented "ASL Storytelling Techniques". What a great opportunity to improve your skill as a storyteller and learn how to apply these techniques as you read daily to your child at home.

Future workshops include:

- "Making the ASL - English Connection" presented by Louise Fitzpatrick, ISD's Language Specialist, on Thursday, March 27th
- "Positive Parenting" presented by Jodee Crace, Mental Health Counselor and ISD graduate, during The Mothers' Luncheon on Thursday, April 24th.

Mark your calendars now and make plans to attend these wonderful learning workshops. Be the best influence you can be for child!

Diana Battiste
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Discovery Toys Donations

Preschool held a *Discovery Toys* sales event in December for ISD families and earned a total of \$327.50 worth of free toys from this fundraiser. Teachers developed a "Wish List" and the following families graciously donated educational toys for the Preschool classrooms and P.E. program:

Donald and Jewell Baxter
Brian and Joann Bippus
Brian Thorn and Bonita Ewan
John and Stephanie Hazelett
Thomas and Shelley James
Jay and Linda Krieger
Bruce and Molly Peters
Ron and Beth Slaven
Kevin and Heather Sullivan

Many thanks to Bonita Ewan for coordinating this event and all the families who continue to support Preschool!



Dads – They Mean the World to Kids!

The Family Education Series presented a very successful **Fathers' Luncheon** Thursday, February 13th. We were thankful to see so many dads attend this rewarding events. Our preschoolers were more than thrilled to pass out hearts to the dads and give a presentation on their dreams and wishes for the world in honor of Martin Luther King. For those of you who missed this event, here is a summary of the students' wishes:

I Have a Dream

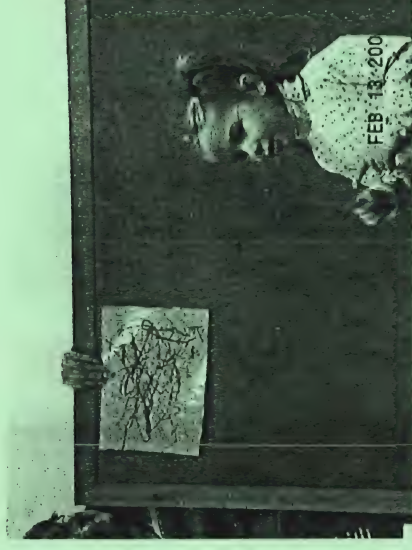
Fathers' Luncheon
February 13, 2003



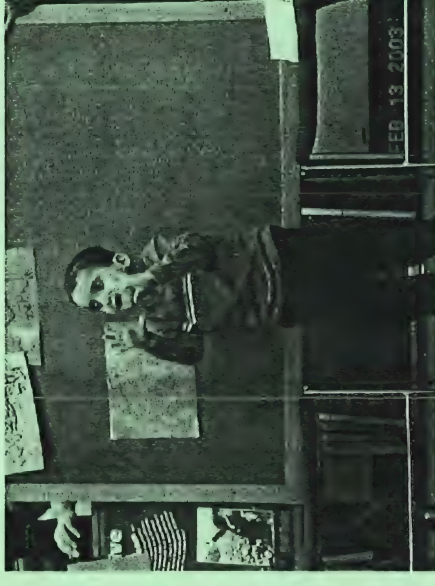
Nathan showed the Martin Luther King poster to the fathers.



"We want all people to cooperate," said Christian.



"We will be nice. If you reject someone, then that person's feelings will be hurt. That is not nice," Victoria said.



"Martin Luther King Day reminds the students in class to smile," said Luke.

Preschool Newsletter

April & May 2003

Spring Fling 2003 Parent Volunteers

Once again we had a very successful department event...The Spring Fling. Co-chairs Cami Cass and Sharon Mealka did a great job coordinating the parent volunteers for the big day. A big thanks to mom, Janet Schwall, who had her Vincennes University ASL students volunteer to run the booths.

We can't stress enough how IMPORTANT parents are to the smooth running of a school program. You have done so much for us this year: joining field trips, planning seasonal events, working in the classroom and cafeteria and helping out with the P.E. program, just to name a few of the many ways you have helped us this year. We thank you all from the bottom of our hearts!

To honor all your work this year, ISD is proud to host the Volunteer Luncheon on Wednesday, April 30 from 11:00-12:30 in the MPR. Hope you can attend so we can "take care of" you as nicely as you have done for us this year!



Mothers' Luncheon 2003

Thanks for a good turn out at the Mothers' Luncheon Thursday. We had an all-time record number of moms show up today. Hats off!! An added bonus to the event this year was *The Family Ed Series* with presenter Jodee Crace, Mental Health Counselor, ISD graduate and a mother of four sons. Her presentation "Positive Parenting" outlined great tips for parenting and celebrating being the "unsung hero" in your child's life. Like Jodee said, it's not always easy being a parent so it is important that we reach out for help and guidance when we need it. Many thanks to Jodee for the wonderful tips for mothers!

Diana Battiste
Supervising Teacher
317-920-6261 tty/V
dbattiste@isfd.state.in.us



Mothers' Luncheon 2003



Stephanie & Jonah Hazelett



Denali & Bonita Ewan



Kaci & Kimberly Patterson



Isabella, Teri & Dante Paulone



Danielle & Joan Smith



Victoria & Brenda Tingler



Carmen & Jan Campos



Angela & Luke Dennin



Kristina & Alex Pitchford



Teri & Noah Motter



Shelley & Abigail James



Mary Ann & Vitya Kinsey



Cindy & Mason Cox



Tiffany Beard & Felicia Barker



Jenny & Zachary Foster



Christine & Lance Wood



Debricka McClung & DeJavier



Franco & Aimee Bippus (Aunt)

Welcome Preschool Staff:

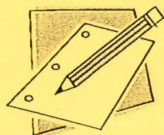
Bryan Huser, Teacher Aide
Kristyn Noblitt, Teacher Long Term Sub
Aalia Amin, Teacher Aide Long Term Sub



"How to Help with Homework and Other Stuff"

Tuesdays 8-9:00 AM
Elementary Department
Teacher: Guy Vollmar

Diane Hazel Jones
Outreach Department
Indiana School for the Deaf
1200 E. 42nd Street
Indianapolis, In 46205
1-317-924-8418
1-800-722-6166 Indiana Residents only



Preschool thanks PTCO and parent volunteers for the ice cream! It was delicious!!!



"The gang"



We are hungry for ice cream!



How did it get on top of my head?



Class Fieldtrips

April 30: Angi's class fieldtrip to Independence Park

Connie's class fieldtrip to Holland Park in Fishers

May 7: Angi's class fieldtrip to Oaklandon Park

May 14: Angi's class fieldtrip to Holliday Park



Upcoming Events:

- May 1: PreK/Kindergarten Picnic
- May 4: PTCO Day: 11 am – 5 pm
- May 13: 500 Race Day
- May 15: Pre-Kindergarten Graduation & last day of school
- May 19-22 Home Visits



Enjoy your summer vacation!



See you this Fall!!